



Acorn's Class Newsletter

Autumn Term 2020

Mrs Sanderson - Monday & Tuesday

Mrs Clough - Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

We hope that you have had a fantastic summer filled with fun and adventures. We would like to take the opportunity to welcome you once again and we hope that you feel settled and ready to start your journey with us. We can't wait to get to know your children over the next few weeks. A warm welcome back to those children who joined us in Nursery and are ready to start Reception. Lets have some fun!

Whilst it is an exciting time, we also appreciate it can be a daunting time too. We encourage you to please speak to us if you have any concerns or worries (big or small). Messages can be passed on to us via the office or via Mrs Bennett on the ramp in the mornings. You can communicate with us regarding anything to do with teaching and learning via Tapestry and Seesaw – please don't send anything urgent on these apps as we may not see them straight away. Urgent information should be passed on via the school office.

Home-School Links

In order for your children to get the very best start at school it is essential we create effective home-school links. We love to find out about your child's learning from home and their achievements. We love receiving pictures and videos of your child's learning moments via Tapestry and Seesaw.

You should all now be connected to your child's profile on both Tapestry and Seesaw. If you are having issues with any of these, please let us know.

Clothing

Please make sure your children are dressed warmly for school as we need to keep the room ventilated with doors and windows open. The children also have access to the outside all day.

Physical Development

PE is going to be on Tuesday afternoons. At first, we will just be changing into pumps and going into the hall for PE.

During outdoor play sessions, the children enjoy playing on the bikes, exploring the play equipment and using this to develop specific skills such as balancing, jumping and controlling objects by pushing and kicking. As well as developing their gross motor skills, the children will also get chance to explore the natural world and making observations. We also bring other areas of the curriculum into the outdoors.

Acorn Staff

Mrs Sanderson (M, T)



Mrs Clough (W, TH, F)



Mrs Lawson (T, W, TH, F)



Mrs Parsonage (M)



We are all very excited to get to know our Acorns.



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Essentials

P.E. kit inc pumps



Waterproofs inc Wellies



Water Bottle



Healthy (nut & pea free)
Snack



All items to be clearly
labelled

Snacks & Drinks

Children can access the snack table independently throughout the day. They receive a free piece of fruit or veg each day and they can also bring in a **healthy nut and pea free** snack from home in a labelled container.

We encourage the children to eat their fruit and drink their milk (or water if they don't have milk) before lunch time. In the afternoon, they can help themselves to water and any snack that may remain from the morning session. Children are taught to wash their hands before snack and are encouraged to clear up independently after they've eaten.

Please ensure that we are made aware of all allergies so that we can keep your children safe.

Meet the Teacher

In the Autumn Term we usually hold two events "Meet the Teacher" which was scheduled for 10th September and "Curriculum Evening" which we usually hold in week 4. Sadly, with local restrictions in place these will now be in the format of a video. We will upload them to Tapestry and Seesaw so look out for these over the next few days and weeks. Meet the teacher is a quick "hello" from the adults in Acorn class with a brief introduction to the class routines.

Curriculum Evening

The Curriculum Evening is where we share the routines in more detail and go through what and how we learn in Acorn class. We also go through phonics in detail for both Nursery and Reception children. We will inform you once these presentations are available. You should hopefully find them very helpful.

Class Trips

With local restrictions in place we are unable to book any school trips at the moment.

Birthdays

As we strive to be a healthier school, we ask parents not to send chocolates or sweets in for their children's birthdays. If you would like them to mark the occasion with their friends, you may like to donate a book or game for the class but please don't go to any expense, this is completely optional. These would then have a Birthday certificate inside such as: "This book was donated to Emmanuel Holcombe Primary School on Rosie's 5th birthday."



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Reading & Phonics (Reception children only)

Once your child starts reading books from our reading scheme (this is likely to be around October half term) we will change their books on a Monday and Thursday (if your child has read them and has been signed by yourself in their reading record). It is important that your child brings their reading book and reading record into school every day so that we can hear them read. Remember practise makes perfect when it comes to reading and a little a day is the best way!

Phonics packs will be sent home after the curriculum presentation. We ask that these are kept in your child's book bag as we update them regularly with the new sounds and words we have learnt. Five minutes daily phonics practice at home using these packs is essential in supporting your child's development in reading and writing. We will give you lots of ideas about how to use them during the curriculum presentation.

Home Learning Activities

Home learning activities will be set each week on Seesaw. These activities will be based on our learning within the classroom and to be completed by the children. These will not start until week 4.

Learning Overview

Please see the grid on the next page to give you a flavour of what your children will be learning this term.

Thank you

Thank you for reading our newsletter. We hope that you have found it useful. Please get in touch if you have any questions. We look forward to working with you all.

Mrs Sanderson, Mrs Clough, Mrs Lawson and Mrs Parsonage





Learning Overview

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Please note we follow the children's interests as we plan so we may spend more or less time on each of the topics.

Autumn 1

Weeks 1 - 6	Marvelous Me!	We will listen to 'Here we are' by Oliver Jeffers following the 'CLPE's' recovery curriculum. The whole school will be enjoying this holistic topic together. Alongside this story we will be exploring what makes each of us unique, what are we good at? What do we enjoy? We will create a picture of ourselves using charcoal and try to write our names or make some marks. We will get to know our classroom rules and routines, develop our independence and learn to tidy up 😊. Reception will recap phase 1 phonics and begin phase 2. Nursery will begin phase 1 aspect 1.
7 - 8	Why are all the leaves on the ground?	This topic will be filled with lots of fun hands on experiences. We will go on an autumn adventure up the hill, explore the new space at the back of school and maybe even try a hot chocolate to warm us up! We will compare different types of trees and look at why some lose their leaves and others don't. We will create autumnal artwork and share autumnal stories. We will look at harvest time and the different things we find in autumn such as acorns, conkers and pumpkins! Reception will continue with phase 2 phonics and Nursery will begin phase 1 aspect 2.

Half Term

1 - 4		We will continue with this topic and exploring celebrations such as Diwali and Bonfire Night as well as following the children's interests.
5 - 7	Christmas	A very exciting topic! We will explore how we celebrate Christmas in our families and how Christmas is celebrated around the world. We will find out about the first Christmas. We will learn Christmas songs, listen to Christmas stories and maybe try some Christmas writing and mark making. We usually have a Christmas Stay and Play and a Nativity performance we will have to assess where local restrictions are up to nearer the time. Reception will continue with phase 2 phonics and may even be beginning phase 3. Nursery will begin phase 1 aspect 3.